

**REMARKS**

The foregoing amendments amend the specification to reflect the 371 status. In addition, the multiple dependency of the claims has been removed to reduce the PTO filing fee.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made**".

Favorable action on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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# IMMUNOASSAY OF PIVKA-II

5 Technical Field:

### Background Art:

Along with AFP(  $\alpha$  -fetoprotein), PIVKA-II (Protein  
Induced by Vitamin K Absence or Antagonist-II) is measured  
widely in clinical examination laboratories as a hepatic cell tumor  
detecting marker which specifically increases in hepatic cell  
cancer patients. Generally, magnetic beads, glass beads, plastic  
plates, latexes or the like on which PIVKA-II specific monoclonal  
or polyclonal antibodies are adsorbed are subjected to a first  
reaction with serum or plasma, then after being washed for B/F  
separation, a second reaction where human prothrombin specific  
polyclonal or monoclonal antibodies labeled with an enzyme, a  
fluorescent material, a radioisotope, an Ru complex or the like are  
added is carried out, and further after being washed for B/F

1. An immunoassay of PIVKA-II in serum or plasma, comprising the steps of:

measuring PIVKA-II in serum or plasma.

2. The immunoassay according to claim 1, wherein a thrombin-containing animal serum and/or purified thrombin are

3. The immunoassay according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein an anti-fibrinogen antibody and/or an anti-fibrin antibody are used as the antibody reacting with human fibrin-like related substances.

[illegible]